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UTILIZATION AND MARKETING

MONTANA FOREST PRODUCTS BULLETIN

Department of State Lands, Division of Forestry
2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana 59801
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GARY G. BROWN, State Forester

PAUL MOORE, Editor

VOL. 11, NO. 1 January - 1986

This bulletin is mailed primarily to individuals engaged in the Forest Products Industry in Montana. In addition, it is mailed to county agents, lumber brokers, wholesalers, dealers of sawmill and logging equipment, educators, and Montana Tree Farmers, as well as the Departments of Forestry in many states.

The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate information regarding the properties and uses of wood products, promote efficiency in the utilization of wood from the stump to the end product, and to serve as a information source for members of the forest products industry.

All persons receiving this newsletter are asked to examine their mailing address and advise this office of any corrections needed for proper mailing.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON WOOD PRESERVATIVES

The Environmental Protection Agency, National Forest Products Association and the Society of American Wood Preservers, Inc., have reached a settlement on the proposed restrictions of the wood preservatives creosote, pentachlorophenol and inorganic arsenicals. The agreement will take effect when the EPA issues an amended notice of intent to cancel registrations in the Federal Register (expected before the first of the year).

Under the new agreement, wood preservers will be required to provide a consumer information sheet to the purchaser on proper use and handling of treated wood products. Reasonable precautions such as washing up after working with treated wood products, wearing dust masks and eye goggles when sawing treated wood are some examples.

Training and certification or licensing applicators is to be done by the states. These programs are to be completed within 10 months after publication of the amended notice in the Federal Register.

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PRIVATE FORESTRY ASSISTANCE

The following brief explanation of the Private Forestry Assistance Program is to inform readers of the "Montana Forest Products Bulletin" of the services available to them from Montana's Service Foresters.

Many people think the service forester's only job is to provide technical assistance to small private forest owners and to administer the Hazard Reduction Law in his assigned area. The purpose of the Cooperative Forestry Program is "to provide technical services to private forest land owners and operators, and processors of primary forest products with respect to management of forest lands and the harvesting, marketing, and processing of forest products".

Although most of the workload of the service forester deals with improving management of private forest lands, he also provides assistance to wood products operators or processors, both primary and secondary. This includes loggers, post and pole cutters and processors, sawmills and secondary wood products companies such as producers of stakes and lathe, wood furniture and pallets.

A. FOR LOGGERS AND POST CUTTERS, THE SERVICES PROVIDED INCLUDE:

1. Location of stumpage, both private and public.
2. Assistance with hazard reduction.
3. Providing information on new logging methods.
4. Locating equipment.

B. FOR SAWMILLS AND POST AND POLE PROCESSORS, THE SERVICES INCLUDE:

1. Assistance with hazard reduction problems.
2. Raw material procurement.
3. Inform them of new innovations in processing methods.
4. Referral to the utilization an marketing forester on technical matters.

C. FOR SECONDARY WOOD PRODUCTS PROCESSORS, THE SERVICES INCLUDE:

1. Procurement of materials needed for production.
2. Inform them of new materials available for use in their type of product.
3. Other appropriate assistance.

The service forester also serves as the eyes and ears and sometimes the legs for the utilization effort for the State. Information such as new processing plants, sawmills, post operations and location of quantities of raw materials are forwarded to the utilization and marketing forester where it is compiled and used in the utilization and marketing program.

If requesting assistance or more information, contact the U&M forester or the State Lands office in your area.

THIRD QUARTER ECONOMIC REPORT

The quarterly production report published by the University of Montana, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, reported that lumber production, production employment, and wages for Montana's wood products industry were higher than the previous quarter. Lumber production was reported at 356 million board feet, 25 million higher than the previous quarter. Plywood production was unchanged at 161 million square feet.

Average monthly production employment of workers was up slightly, but remains below the third quarter 1984. Total wages paid to production workers were $28,390,000. The figures refer only to production workers at mill sites and do not include other sectors of the industry.

DRY KILN OPERATOR'S MANUAL TO BE REVISED

The Wood Products Extension Specialist in Madison, Wisconsin has informed us that Ag Handbook 188, Dry Kiln Operator's Manual, written in 1961 is scheduled for extensive revision by scientists in the Forest Products Laboratory Drying Group.

Many of you have used this handbook as a standard reference. Your suggestions and comments regarding drying schedules or text changes would be welcome at this time.

Send your comments and suggestions to Bill Simpson, Project Leader, FPL Drying Group, Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53705-2398.

STANDING TIMBER EVALUATION AND GROWTH ANALYSIS

A menu-driven Microsoft Basic computer program titled, "TIMBER" has been developed by the Department of Agriculture for use on microcomputers.

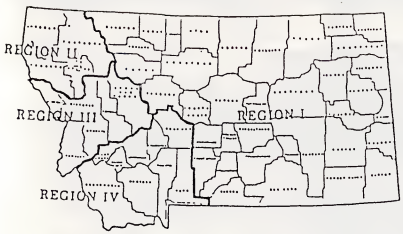
The program estimates timber volume, value and growth using inventory data gathered from dot tally cruises. The program is available for most MS-DOS microcomputers (e.g., IBM PC, TI PC, Tandy 2000, etc.).

To receive a copy of the program, a formatted floppy diskette should be sent to the Head of Computer Service, Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service, Extension Center, Mississippi State University, MS 39762, Phone (601)325-3226.

MONTANA LOG PRICE REPORT

The Statewide log price report on the following page catalogs recently delivered average log prices to sawmills by species using four geographical areas within Montana. The objective of the price report is to show private forest landowners the value of their timber and help them gauge the proper time to enter the market.

Prices are provided by approximately 35 sawmills operating within the State. The report is compiled through the Extension Forester's Office, School of Forestry, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana 59812.



MONTANA LOG PRICE REPORT

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1986

The following information is a summary breakdown of recent past average prices reportedly paid by primary wood processors for logs of the various species listed. These prices are not necessarily a reflection of current market prices. Fair market prices may vary a great deal based on log size, length, quality, contract size and terms, and a number of other factors. All information reported is recent average price per thousand board feet (MBF), Scribner Decimal rule delivered to the mill site, unless otherwise noted.

Prices provided for this report by individual firms are treated as confidential disclosure of the firm's operations. Any requests for mill specific data which have been provided for the log report will be denied.

SAWLOGS Scribner Dec C MBF	REGION I	*	REGION II	*	REGION III	*	REGION IV	*
Species	Avg. Low High		Avg. Low High		Avg. Low High		Avg. Low High	
Ponderosa pine	$112/$90 /$135	F/P	$225 /$225/$225	F				
(Yellow)	$108/$90 /$135	G/P	$213 /$185/$230	G/F	$195 /$190/$200	F		
(Bull)	$116/$90 /$135	G/P	$150 /$135/$170	G/P	$112 /$95 /$130	F/P		
Lodgepole pine	$145/$145/$145	G	$142 /$135/$145	G/F	$147 /$145/$150	G/F	$162 /$160/$165	G
Douglas-fir	$138/$130/$145	G/P	$146 /$135/$160	F/P	$152 /$150/$155	G/F	$157 /$150/$165	G/F
Western larch			$151 /$145/$160	G/P	$152 /$150/$155	G/F		
Englemann spruce			$155 /$145/$170	G/P	$158 /$145/$170	G/F	$160 /$155/$165	G
Subalpine fir			$141 /$135/$145	G/P	$147 /$145/$150	G/F	$160 /$155/$165	G/F
Grand fir			$140 /$135/$145	G/P	$147 /$145/$150	G/F		
Western red cedar			$192 /$180/$210	G/P				
Hemlock			$137 /$130/$145	G/P				
White pine			$217 /$190/$230	G/F				

VENEER LOGS Scribner Dec C MBF	STATEWIDE REPORT	
Species	Avg. Low High	Demand Next 60 Days
Douglasfir	$164 / $160 / $168	F
Ponderosa pine (Bull)	$150 / $150 / $150	F
Western Larch	$159 / $150 / $168	F/P

* G = Good
F = Fair
P = Poor

CUTTING INJURY COSTS IN THE SAWMILL

Numerous booklets on safety have been published for the wood products industry. Private individuals, companies and State workers compensation bureaus of many states, have compiled safety information on most phases of lumber manufacturing.

Experienced sawmill people are often well aware of the hazards of their operations and usually respect them. Even so, situations occur that require quick thinking and common sense. Being aware and respecting these injury causers is one thing, controlling them is quite another.

The fact is very few types of injuries account for a large percentage of the total injury costs. A study of 1,577 injuries in the sawmill sector revealed that 20% of the injuries were caused by contact with saws, 20% getting caught in machinery, 17% handling lumber and 15% struck by flying objects. The following are some questions to ask yourself as you examine your mill. Do any apply to you?

CONTACT WITH SAWS: Are devices rather than hands used to remove unwanted material from the saw area? Have you considered spiral rolls for removing debris? Before oiling, cleaning, adjusting or changing saws, do you require shutting off power and locking out switches? Are all saws guarded as completely as possible? If you are using a manually operated swing saw, is the saw positioned so that it is at the operator's side? Are the waste removal systems designed for trouble-free operation and adequate for the job?

GETTING CAUGHT IN MACHINERY: Have you installed guards where needed on all machines and power transmission equipment? Are supervisors accountable for maintenance and proper use of the guards? Are electric switches labeled to indicate what machinery or equipment they start and stop? Have portable electric tools been grounded? Has a training program been established to educate employees in machine use and safe operating procedures?

HANDLING LUMBER: While handling materials at conveyors, rolls and chains, are employees trained to grab correctly and firmly? Has material handling been mechanized as much as economically possible? Are employees trained to handle lumber properly to avoid back injuries or dropping lumber on themselves or others? Are lumber piles stable?

STRUCK BY FLYING OBJECTS: Have you avoided locating work stations behind the edger? Are anti-kickback fingers or dogs installed where necessary and checked regularly? Are covers and/or bang-boards installed on edges to contain flying chunks? Have substantial screens and/or barriers been installed behind circular head saws, slasher saws, and others where needed?

To be placed in unsafe situations unnecessarily is inexcusable. Even though it may take time and additional money to install safety equipment or train people, it will be worth the effort. Besides keeping your workers safe and insurance rates at the lowest level, you demonstrate to others that you care about them. That is the kind of person I'd want to work for, wouldn't you?

SAWING AND RELATED PROCESSES

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

The following publications may be obtained free upon request by contacting the Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705, Phone (608) 264-5600.

A LOOK AT CENTERED VS. OFFSET SAWING; USDA Forest Service, Res. Pap. FPL 321. 1979. (NTIS)

IMPROVING SAWING ACCURACY DOES HELP; USDA Forest Service, Res. Pap. FPL 320. 1979. (NTIS)

COMPUTER OPTIMIZATION OF CUTTING YIELD FROM MULTIPLE-RIPPED BOARDS; USDA Forest Service, Res. Pap. FPL 318. 1978. (NTIS)

IS THERE A "BEST" SAWING METHOD?; USDA Forest Service, Res. Pap. FPL 280. 1976. (NTIS)

CIRCULAR SAWMILLS AND THEIR EFFICIENT OPERATION; USDA Forest Service--S&PF, Unnumbered Publ. 1972. (FPL)

SAWING FROZEN TIMBER WITH CIRCULAR HEADRIGS; USDA Forest Service, Tech. Rep. No. 4, Dec. 1972. (NTIS)

HOW TO PREDICT MAXIMUM LUMBER YIELDS; Furn. Des. & Manuf. 41(5) 54-62. 1969. (FPL)

THE "TAPER-TENSION" SAW--A NEW REDUCED KERF SAW; USDA Forest Service, Res. Note FPL-0185. 1968. (NTIS)

A MATHEMATICAL MODEL TO CALCULATE VOLUMES OF LUMBER AND RESIDUE PRODUCED IN SAWMILLING; USDA Forest Service, Res. Pap. FPL 336. 1979. (NTIS)

COMPARING LUMBER YIELDS FROM BOARD-FOOT AND CUBICALLY SCALED LOGS; USDA Forest Service, Res. Pap. FPL 324. 1979. (NTIS)

PROPERTIES OF WOOD FROM IMPROVED AND INTENSIVELY MANAGED TREES; Forest Prod. J. 28(10)61-72. 1978. (FPRS)

MACHINE STRESS RATING: PRACTICAL CONCERNS FOR LUMBER PRODUCERS; USDA Forest Service, Gen. Tech. Rep. FPL-7. 1977. (NTIS)

COMPUTER RECOGNITION OF LUMBER QUALITY; Reprinted from Second Conf., Autom. Insp. and Prod. Control, Oct. 19-21, 1976, IIT Res. Inst,. Chicago, IL. (FPL)

A COLLECTION OF LOG RULES; USDA Forest Service, Gen. Tech. Rep. FPL-1. 1974. (NTIS)

DRYING WOOD; A REVIEW; Originally printed in Drying Tech.--An Inter. J. as a two-part article. 1983-1984. (FPL)

DEP: A COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR EVALUATING LUMBER DRYING COSTS AND INVESTMENTS; USDA Forest Service, Gen. Tech. Rep. FPL-37. 1983. (NTIS)

TRENDS IN SOFTWOOD SAWMILL OVERRUNS AND THEIR IMPACT ON STUMPAGE PRICES; Forest Prod. J. 30(9) 21-24. 1980. (FPRS)

OVERSEAS MEASURES TO IMPROVE INITIAL SEASONING AND HANDLING. Part II; Import/Export Wood Purch. News 4 (6):4. 1978. (FPL)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS TIMBER SALES

ROUND PRAIRIE TIMBER SALE

Sealed bids will be received by the Department of State Lands, Forestry Division, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, MT 59801, up to 2:00 p.m., January 27, 1986, for the merchantable sawtimber designated for cutting in the S½NE¼, N½SE¼ and SW¼SE¼ of Section 6, T30N-R22W. The Round Prairie Timber Sale is estimated to contain 258 MBF western larch, 168 MBF Douglas-fir, 131 MBF spruce, 38 MBF lodgepole pine, 3 MBF white fir, 5 MBF dead (all species) for a total of 603 MBF, more or less.

The timber will be sold to the highest bidder and no bid will be accepted for less than $25.71/MBF western larch, $34.76/MBF Douglas-fir, $10.00/MBF spruce, $5.00/MBF lodgepole pine, $5.00/MBF white fir, and $2.50/MBF dead, all species.

An additional charge of $11.00/MBF for slash disposal, and $11.00/MBF for timber stand improvement will be collected for all merchantable timber, green or dead.

Full particulars regarding the terms of the contract regulations governing the sale and bid forms may be obtained from the Department of State Lands, Forestry Division in Missoula, or the Northwest Land Office or Kalispell Unit Office in Kalispell.

FOR SALE-EQUIPMENT

30 foot portable sawmill, 48" saw, 10 foot carriage, 8 rolls, manual kickers, sawdust chute, slab roller. Complete with mandrel pulley of choice, $5,000. Contact Oscar Oftendahl, Foys Lake Rd., Kalispell, Montana. 59901 Phone (406)755-4711.

6 hp dip chain gang saw; 7.5 hp x 18" undercut saw; 8-station carving machine; Mobark 636 Debarker; 2 1/2" to 4 3/4 dowel machine; 25" x 7" 4-sided planer; Lane Shingle Mill; Festo Finger Jointer. Contact Thom Labrie, Auburn Machinery, Inc., P.O. Box 3065, Auburn, Maine 04210. Phone (207)784-4240.

Precision dowel mills manufactured by Bouma Post Yards at Choteau, Montana. 2" to 8" capacity with peeling speeds up to 25' per minute. For quotes and availability, contact Harold Bouma at (406)466-2140.

Two random length sawmills in northwestern Montana. One air dry, one kiln dry, both located on rail. No over priced timber contracts. Mills are operable, but not operating. Favorable price and terms. Montana Forest Products, P.O. Box 2090, Kalispell, Montana 59903. Phone (406)755-6432.

If you wish to advertise a forest product or a piece of wood-processing machinery in this bulletin complete the form below. No charge is made for this service. If you wish to rerun an item, a written request must be submitted before the next issue.

NAME OF PERSON OR FIRM: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ PHONE: _____

Type or print your advertisement in the space below, detach and return to:

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